

VEHICLE INDUSTRY NEWS

VIN 2001-6

Subject : Commercial Vehicle Registration Act of 2001 (CVRA)

Introduction

The Commercial Vehicle Registration Act of 2001 (CVRA) changes the way the Department of Motor Vehicles registers commercial motor vehicles.

Effective December 31, 2001, and after, the fees for commercial motor vehicles will be based on the unladen weight, or the declared gross vehicle weight, or combined gross vehicle weight. Owners of commercial motor vehicles that weigh 6,001 unladen lbs. or more, will be required to declare the maximum operating weight of their vehicles with a load.

Definitions

Declared gross vehicle weight (GVW)—the weight that equals the total unladen weight of the vehicle plus the heaviest load that will be transported on the vehicle. (Vehicles that haul a load, but do not pull another vehicle.)

Declared combined gross vehicle weight (CGW)—the weight that equals the total unladen weight of the combination of vehicles (motor truck and trailer) plus the heaviest load that will be transported by that combination. (Vehicles that pull another vehicle.)

Anticipated Rollout Plan

- **In May and June 2001**, DMV will mail declaration forms (REG 4008A—sample attached) with the new informational Fast Facts (FFVR 27) to the owners of commercial motor vehicles that show an unladen weight of 6,001 lbs. or more.
- **In May**, Questions and Answers will be available on DMV's website at www.dmv.ca.gov.
- **In August 2001**, some registration forms will be revised such as the Statement of Facts (REG 256) and Application for Registration (REG 343). Continue to use your existing supply before ordering the revised forms.

You will receive another memo with additional information and instructions pertaining to the ongoing declaration form (REG 4008).

- **In September 2001**, DMV will mail declaration forms to owners who purchased commercial motor vehicles (original registrations and transfers) that occurred after the initial REG 4008A mailings in May and June 2001.
- **In October 2001**, DMV will begin to send renewal billing notices (with expiration dates of December 31, 2001) that ask for the CVRA fees based on the reported GVW/CGW. If no response to the REG 4008A has been received, the CVRA fees will be assessed on the default weight range (80,000 lbs. = \$1,700).

What You Should Know

- DMV will continue to register some commercial motor vehicles based on the vehicle's unladen weight. (See excluded vehicles below.) Continue to record the unladen weight information for all commercial motor vehicles on the report of sale.
- Owners who declare a GVW/CGW of 10,001 lbs. or more, will pay CVRA fees based on the declared operating weight instead of the unladen weight. The owner may change the declared operating weight at any time by completing another declaration form.

If the declared weight increases, additional CVRA fees will be due for the remainder of the registration year. However, if the weight decreases, **no** pro-rated refund of the CVRA fee is applicable.

NOTE: If the vehicle owner over-reported the vehicle GVW/CGW and never operated the vehicle at the reported weight, the owner may complete an Application for Refund (ADM 399) and submit it to the address given on the form for refund consideration.

- Owners who fail to declare their vehicle's GVW/CGW will be assessed CVRA fees based on the maximum weight range (80,000 lbs. = \$1,700).
- The registration/renewal fees will increase for commercial motor vehicles with GVW/CGW of 10,001 lbs. or over.
- The Certificate of Title **does not** have to be submitted to declare the GVW/CGW.

Vehicles excluded from the new law

- Pickups will continue to be registered by the unladen weight regardless of their GVW.
- Light-weight trucks, vans, taxis, and rental limousines (this includes charter-party carriers operating limousines that pick up and deliver airport passengers) will be registered by the unladen weight only, if the vehicle's GVW is 10,000 lbs. or less.
- Commercial motor vehicles registered with special equipment or with exempt (permanent and annual) license plates are excluded.

Permanent Fleet Registration (PFR)

Commercial motor vehicles under PFR registration will be subject to GVW/CGW requirements if the vehicle operates at 10,001 lbs. or over. The new law changes the criteria to qualify for PFR as follows:

- Only motor vehicles (power units) will be eligible for PFR registration if the fleet owner(s) or association meets the eligibility criteria.
- To be eligible, an association must be at least 250 units and each association member must have at least 25 units.
- A single owner (not part of an association) must register at least 50 units.
- The owner or association has five years to meet the motor vehicle requirements.

NOTE: Units can be comprised of all types of motor vehicles **except** motorcycles.

Declaration Forms (REG 4008A)

The registered owner, lessee, or designee must declare the vehicle gross or combined gross weight, sign, and date the certification portion, and return it to DMV Headquarters at the address shown on the form. The owner, lessee, or designee must:

- Complete Section “B” showing the GVW/CGW weight code (letters A—N) under the appropriate column for each vehicle. Section “C” must be completed and signed.
- If **all** the vehicles are in the same weight category, then only Section “A” and “C” need to be completed and signed.
- If the vehicle weight does not exceed 10,000 lbs. GVW/CGW, mark an “X” under the first column in either Section “A” or “B.” Section “C” must be completed and signed.

NOTE: The signature of the designee (such as an authorized employee of a registration service) in lieu of the registered owner or lessee’s signature will be accepted.

Distribution

This memo was distributed in MAY 2001 to the following:

- Dealers
- Dismantlers
- Registration Services

Contact

- Your local DMV field office regarding questions on processing transactions.
- The DMV Customer Communications Section at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.



CANDY WOHLFORD, Deputy Director
Communication Programs Division

Attachments

Commercial Vehicle Registration Act Range Schedule

(Effective on December 31, 2001, and later)

Gross/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight Range	Weight Code	CVRA Fee
10,001–15,000	A	\$ 257
15,001–20,000	B	353
20,001–26,000	C	435
26,001–30,000	D	552
30,001–35,000	E	648
35,001–40,000	F	761
40,001–45,000	G	837
45,001–50,000	H	948
50,001–54,999	I	1,039
55,000–60,000	J	1,173
60,001–65,000	K	1,282
65,001–70,000	L	1,398
70,001–75,000	M	1,650
75,001–80,000	N	1,700

The CVRA fee is composed of weight fees and a motor vehicle fee of \$82 which represents registration fees formerly collected on trailers.